



NCO leadership

Gulf Region Division convened a board to select GRD's outstanding soldier for the Sgt. Audie Murphy Club. Those serving on that board Feb. 10 included (left to right) GRD Sgt. Major William Porter, GRC CSM Ricahrd Grab, GRD CSM Gregory Glenn, SFC Westerman, GRN SGM Michael Leogrande, GRS CSM David Murphy.-

SFC Westerman earns entry into Sgt. Audie Murphy Club

Sgt. Audie Murphy exemplifies the finest aspects of a non-commissioned officer as he became the most decorated soldier in World War II including the Medal of Honor.

\ Twenty years ago, the Sgt. Audie Murphy Club was organized to recognize other outstanding non-commissioned officers who set the example for all to emulate.

Sergeant First Class Troy Westerman was among dozens of soldiers eligible to compete for the honor in Gulf Region Division. He was screened in January at Gulf Region Central District by a board consisting of five Master Sergeants and the Command Sergeant Major.

He answered questions for 40 minutes on a variety of topics including land navigation, non-commissioned officer history, maintenance, Army programs, evaluation reports, weapons, leadership, drill and ceremony, first aid, and Chain of Command.

He then appeared Feb. 10 before the Gulf Region Division board consisting

of GRD CSM Gregory Glenn, GRD GRC CSM Ricahrd Grab, GRD Sgt. Major William Porter, GRN SGM Michael Leogrande, GRS CSM David Murphy.- SFC Westerman says he's proud to be selected for the privilege of joining the Sgt. Audie Murphy Club. "And it was especially meaningful to do so in a combat zone here in Iraq."

GRC Command Sergeant Major Richard Grab says Westerman definitely belongs in the Sgt. Audie Murphy Club. He serves as the NCOIC at GRC's Loyalty Office located near Sadr City. "He believes in the Army's values and makes the extra effort to enforce the highest standards," Grab continued. "He sets the example for others to emulate."

Westerman is a member of the Missouri National Guard's 35th HHD Infantry Division's Engineer Brigade in Cape Girardeau, Mo., and was recalled in April.

He has been in the National Guard 16 years and has taught 7th grade math at Lebanon Junior High School for 12 years. He and his wife Laura have four children -- Andy 16, Jessica 12, Anthony 5, and Emily 1.

